

# HIGH POINT

Vol. 14, No. 1

BISHOP FORD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Fall, 1989

## Orientation For 300 Freshmen

by Danielle Ramos

The first day of anything is always filled with anticipation and doubts bordering on plain fear. The first day of high school is a particularly frightening day for many freshmen.

On orientation day, you sit in that big auditorium, the one which you'll sit in time and time again. Many faculty members try to reassure you and tell you how much of an adjustment high school really is. They talk about the many educational as well as social activities offered which make Bishop Ford a great school. And while they are talking, all you can think of is how huge this school is and if you'll ever find your way around. After Brother Luke welcomes you to Ford, you receive your program card, find your homeroom, and try to open your locker.

The first day of classes is usually for freshmen exclusively. There is always the usual: lost books, lost papers, and rooms that you try to get on time to but never do. These are the rooms where you usually have the strictest and meanest teachers, too. You try your hardest to find your assigned classrooms and make each class on time. This is hard enough. Then, that next Monday, the upper classmen roll in. Trying to get to homeroom is about as crowded as the F train at rush hour. With all the juniors and seniors roaming around looking like they're having a good time, laughing, joking, and strolling down the hall, you swear you'll never be one of them.

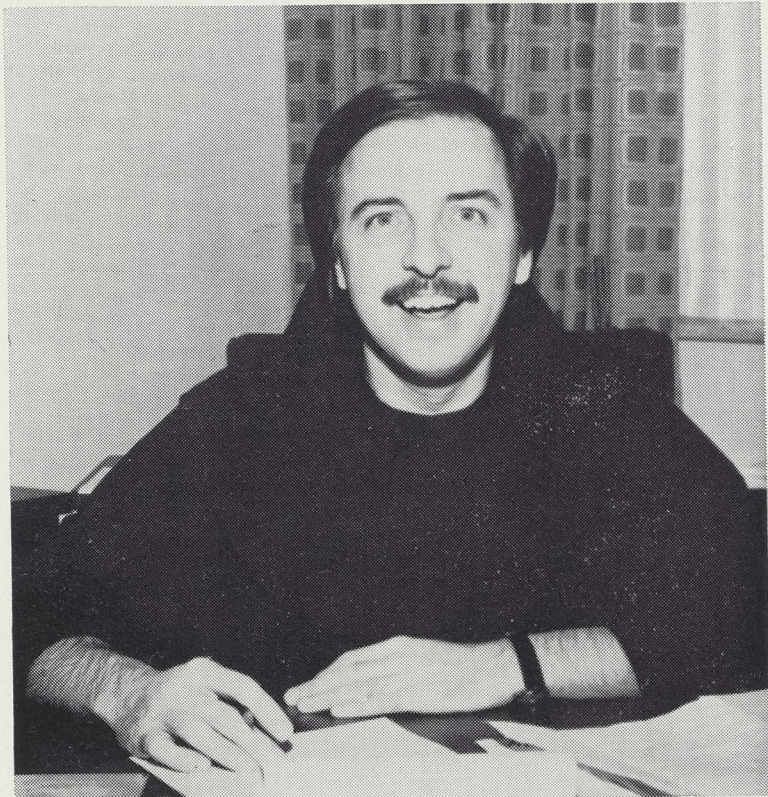
A couple of days go by and things seem much easier. You're on time for all your classes, your lock opens, and you remember all the right books. Now, when you walk into that once-dreaded, immense cafeteria, you see familiar faces and join them, only to find out that you're not alone; many (if not all) of the other freshmen are going through the same adjustments.

And, after a couple of months, you're as at ease as everyone else. You're like those juniors and seniors, having a good time, laughing, joking, and strolling down the hallways. This is your school and you feel at home. It's up to you to make it the best it can be.

Good Luck, Class of '93.

Welcome to Bishop Ford.

## Brother Luke Interviewed



Brother Luke Nawrocki, O.S.F.

by John Infortunio

**Q.) Are you enjoying being principal at Bishop Ford?**

A.) Yes, I am enjoying being principal at Bishop Ford. I have been involved in education for 20 years, and I feel as though I am making a contribution to young people. It is especially meaningful for me to be in a school I attended. It is extremely rewarding for me to work with very special teachers and administrators dedicated to bringing out the best in the students.

**Q.) You have made many changes this year. Do you feel things were too lenient when you arrived?**

A.) I try not to make comparisons. Every principal comes in with his own goals. One thing I did was to talk to the teachers about what they thought needed to be done, and I responded to that. For example, one of the reasons uniforms for seniors were instituted is to identify Ford students. For everyone's safety, it is important to be able to distinguish them from outsiders in the building. I feel the uniform also creates a great sense of pride in Bishop Ford.

**Q.) Will there be any new programs this or next year?**

A.) One of my goals is to spend time with student representatives in meetings to get a sense of what is on their minds. I will also take the opinions of the Middle States Visiting Committee into consideration. I'd like to improve on programs that reach out to students to make students more aware of issues facing them in our society and to explore their values as individuals.

**Q.) What is the purpose of the 6-day cycle?**

A.) There are many reasons for this schedule change. One is that in previous years it was difficult to provide everyone with physical education classes; now, with an extra day, it is possible. The six-day cycle also provides flexibility for experimental programs.

**Q. What do you like most and dislike most about Bishop Ford?**

A. I dislike the fact that I don't know all the students by name. I recently worked in a small school where I knew everyone. Also, not every student takes as much advantage of the education here as he should. I do, however, like the spirit of the school. The students are very respectful of one another and have a positive rapport with the faculty. It is a friendly, warm, and helpful environment. This school is a caring place in a not-so-caring world.

## Exchange Program

This year two Bishop Ford students were selected as participants in the Ronald S. Lauder Student Exchange Program: junior Anthony Allison in the N.Y./Vienna program and sophomore Valerie Sanchez in the N.Y./Budapest program.

Anthony and his family are now hosting George Waldner from Vienna; Valerie and her family have Judit Berg from Budapest as their guest. Both of these visiting students are attending Bishop Ford this fall, after which they will return to their respective homes with our students as their guests in the spring.

We, the members of the **HIGHPOINT** staff, offer our encouragement and support to those suffering as a result of our country's recent natural disasters.

## Hugo Causes Havoc

by Christopher Mari

Hurricane Hugo had winds achieving 135 miles per hour. It was a category-four hurricane, indicating it was strong enough to cause great amounts of damage. This classification of hurricanes comes from the Saffir-Simpson scale of strength.

The New York area was left with very little of Hugo's strength. New York only received winds of 30 to 40 miles per hour and heavy rains.

But other areas were not as lucky. In Puerto Rico, 129,000 people's homes were partially or totally destroyed by Hugo's powerful winds. The island was left with very low food stocks, and 70% of Puerto Rico had no running water. One-third of the people on the island had no electricity.

Later, South Carolina and other parts of the coastal south suffered similar damage. The city of Charleston estimated one billion dollars in damage. Half a million people were without electricity. Also, areas of Charleston were without water, and residents were advised to boil any water they did have.

In nearby Charlotte, North Carolina, 80% of customers in a city of 375,000 were without power.

In Charleston's Hoper Hospital, the staff had to move 250 patients to one side of the building to protect the patients from the winds. Then they were moved again, as the eye passed, to the opposite side of the building.

Puerto Rico's legendary Luquillo Beach is a shambles. Trees are uprooted all over the area. Luckily no one in Puerto Rico was killed.

President Bush has declared that the island is a disaster area. This action will give Puerto Rico long term federal loans and assistance. The president has also declared seven South Carolina counties disaster areas, giving them equal amounts of federal help.

In the New York area, Governor Cuomo and Mayor Koch offered their help. Combined, they gave the island of Puerto Rico 15,000 cots, linens, food-stuffs, building material and cherry pickers to restore power lines.



## Who Will Unite N.Y.C.?

by Myriam Exume

Who will be able to unite New York City? In November, David N. Dinkins, New York City's first black mayoral nominee of a major political party, will face Rudolph W. Giuliani in the election to be New York City's next mayor.

Dinkins scored a stunning and decisive victory over incumbent Mayor Edward I. Koch in the Democratic primary. While getting a majority of the city's black vote, Dinkins also scored well with white voters. Analysts felt this was needed in order for the Manhattan borough president to win.

Giuliani had an easier time, easily defeating Ronald Lauder to gain the Republican nomination. The former U.S. district attorney gained over 60% of the votes.

The killing of Yusuf Hawkins sparked bitter emotions in the hearts of New Yorkers and, as a result, became a primary campaign issue. Many thought that this incident would divide New Yorkers along racial lines, blacks voting for Dinkins and whites for Koch. However, many of Koch's white supporters voted for Dinkins.

So, now it's Giuliani vs. Dinkins. Dinkins seems to have the edge, since New York is a democratic town. Dinkins' message has been one of bringing the city together. Giuliani stresses he will bring change to the City of New York.

Indeed, a lot of change and uniting will be needed in order to make our city a better place in which to live. More affordable housing is needed to aid those who are less fortunate, and so are better drug programs to educate the youth on the terrible dangers of drugs. Our city needs a leader who will be able to ease racial tensions and bring everyone, black and white, Jew and gentile, together and make us see that we are all equal.

The election in November will mark the beginning of a new era. We have grown up knowing only one mayor, Ed Koch. Now we will experience a changing of the guard.

# Just Say No?

by Danielle Ramos

It's a short, simple phrase that's supposed to be a solution to a complex problem. By putting this phrase into effect, the government thinks that drug abuse will stop, or at least decline, but it's not that easy. They must do more.

One of the leading causes of crime and death in New York City and all around the world is the abuse of illegal drugs. It is most responsible for the muggings, burglaries, assaults, and murders that occur day after day.

The government needs to take a stronger stand. Officials must do more than just make empty promises to get elected. They must **act** on their words. How many lives of innocent people have to be destroyed before the government will intervene? How many police officers have to be gunned down in drug-related cases? How many elderly people have to be mugged and robbed of their belongings, beaten and frightened until they don't even go out of their houses?

George Bush cannot go on pretending nothing is wrong, and then when criminals like Philip Copeland kill officers like Edward Byrne, sentence them to twenty-five years. The pain and anguish suffered by these victims' families is something that will never be forgotten, and it will never be relieved by a twenty-five-year jail term.

The government cannot wait until the drug lords get so out of hand that civilians are forced to protect themselves, like Carlos and Maria Hernandez. Mr. and Mrs. Hernandez complained to the police time and time again, asking, pleading with them to get the drug lords—namely, two rival heroin rings **La Bamba** and **Dead on Arrival**—off their block, Starr Street. No action was taken and they were forced to take it themselves. Only when Maria Hernandez was fatally shot in the right temple, was police action taken, arresting William Figueroa, 26, for murder.

Now let's just suppose that action had been taken and police investigated the Hernandez' complaints. Evidence was found. Drug lords were arrested. Then we must also suppose that Starr Street would be safe, free from illicit drugs, and Maria Hernandez would be alive today. Now that's a lot to suppose, something that Mr. Hernandez and the rest of his family probably think about all the time.

William Figueroa has been arrested a number of times on theft, assault, and drug charges. He served two separate jail terms in 1987. In '88, he served time for possessing two-and-a-half ounces of cocaine and eight thousand dollars in cash. Most recently he was charged on May 11 when police seized bundles of heroin and pounds of cocaine in Massachusetts, but he was released on his own recognizance and was free since then. Webster's dictionary defines recognizance as "an obligation under penalty, entered into before some court to do, or to refrain from doing, some particular act." William Figueroa—big time drug lord and thief who has been arrested countless numbers of times consecutively—was released on his own recognizance. Is this the action of an efficient and competent government? Had any one of these previous charges been harsher, Maria Hernandez might still be alive today. This was a heinous, senseless murder that could have been prevented.

What is it going to take to get the government rolling? The law enforcers can do much more than they are doing, also. How many times have cop cars passed by people selling or doing drugs and just kept driving down the block?

Stricter laws must be made and enforced. Criminals are rarely caught and prosecuted. When they are, it's never to the fullest extent.

Just say no? Will people like Philip Copeland and William Figueroa really just say no? And can we depend on them to? The government thinks so. They think it will all go away. Or, at least that's what their actions show.

Just say No? **No**, it's not that easy.

The National Honor Society and the National Business Honor Society will have their Induction Ceremony and Dinner at Ford at 6:30 p.m. on November 8.

## HIGHPOINT

Bishop Ford Central Catholic High School  
500 19th Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11215

**Staff:** John Infortunio, Christopher Mari, Danielle Ramos, Myriam Exume, Michael Wysokowski, Reginald Deas, Danielle Schone, Bill Condon, Shirley Arbulu, Christine Arbulu, Jenn Selfridge, David Lando, Richard Garcia, Gerald Garcia, Kurt Schamann, Kevin Kelly, Jon Verderame, Sandra Paul, Sabine Paul, Regine DeJean, James Abel, Susan Richards, Deborah Gillick.

**PRINCIPAL** ..... Bro. Luke Nawrocki, O.S.F.  
**ADVISOR** ..... Mr. George A. McKay

# Pride Of The Anthem

by John Infortunio and  
Mike Wysokowski

Sometimes in life we are judged by our peers and found guilty by them. We are found guilty for our expressions, our attire, and for the generation to which we belong. It has always been this way. As always, every generation has a person who can change its whole outlook on society. They don't teach this to us in school, so, therefore, we must reach out and beyond to satisfy our own curiosities by reading banned books just rescued from the incinerators. I can remember reading a book in which, during a troubled period, a generation exercised this ritual at a place called Woodstock. I guess that was a time when people were free, because as I read on I didn't hear of any camps or punishments. Enough about the past. Let's speak a little

about the present so that maybe this tragedy will never occur again.

It is New York, the year is 2050. The buildings that once eclipsed the sky like royal guardians have been reduced to a thick, black-gray dust. The air, having been polluted by the gunfire, has a harsh sulfur smell. I drag myself through the remains of this lost land and see the looting that has yet to cease. The winds that blow are not friendly to my cloaked body. The revolution has not changed the attitudes, the feelings, the pride. This city is now governed by a small group of hand-picked officials. Prisoners or correctional facilities no longer exist. The punishment for a harmful or destructive crime is a trip to the Utopia Clinic. As I walk, shadows cast their eerie chill upon me. I go to see the officer.

## What Do You Think?

by Reginald Deas

The uniform is a big problem for a lot of the students of our school, mainly this year's freshman and senior classes. As you might have noticed, this year's freshmen have a new uniform. Many of them feel an injustice has been done here. Many of the upper classmen feel sorry for them. They have to wear this uniform for the next four years. It is much easier to spot freshmen: the uniform gives them away.

Why the new uniform? Many claim that it's a status symbol in Catholic school society, others say it's to foster discipline in our school, still others say it's to punish us. We'll probably never know the real reason.

This year's sophomore class are the last ones to wear a variety of uniforms. They're the lucky ones (if you can call them that). It seems that all of the classes after us will be wearing the so-called ugly uniform.

How do seniors feel about wearing a uniform at 17 years of age? Some people say that it's not that bad, it's not affecting their academic progress, it actually helps in choosing clothes for the day. What do you think? Don't just sit there... Do something!

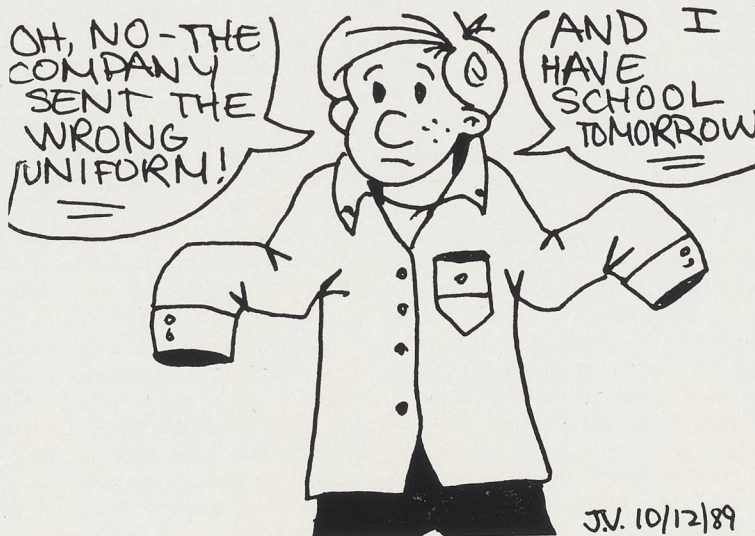
## Uniforms Teach Conformity

by Danielle Schone

Starting this year at Bishop Ford, it is mandatory for all students to wear uniforms. Seniors, who once were in dress code, now must wear a uniform. Freshmen have a different uniform than the rest of the school. The skirts are identical, as are the pants and shirts. The shirts have Bishop Ford plastered across them. There is no longer a choice. This uniform isolates the freshman from the rest of the school.

Is it really necessary to have Bishop Ford written on the shirts and sweaters? Is it necessary that we buy our uniforms from **the company**? Many students complain that the company's prices are too high and they can find the same thing cheaper elsewhere.

The teachers and administration feel that they made the right decision. Talk to your class president about dress up days. When one arrives, show the faculty that they made the wrong decision.



# The Stones Steel Wheels

by William Condon

"Steel Wheels," the new album by the Rolling Stones, is their best in over 10 years.

While side one consists of some entertaining songs, side two is where their creativity really takes off.

"Rock and a Hard Place" features some of Mick Jagger's best vocals, and Keith Richards' guitar work is also notable.

The most interesting track on the Album is a song called "Continental Drift," which sounds more like a group of Middle-Eastern musicians performed it than England's Rolling Stones.

Another notable track is "Can't Be Seen," where Keith Richards gets a chance to show off his vocal ability in a song which is reminiscent of his recent solo album, "Talk Is Cheap."

The backing section of Bill Wyman on bass guitar, Charlie Watts on drums, and Ron Wood on guitar is very strong and deserves more recognition.

In retrospect, this is an album which is worth your eight bucks.

## 'Til Death Does Us Part

by Reginald Deas

During the 80's divorce has become an epidemic. It's becoming more and more casual, as if it were a part of life. Many alumni of our school have divorced parents, and it is surprising to see that the divorce rate of minorities is climbing at a fast rate. And then count the number of celebrities who have married, divorced, married and then divorced again.

One reason for divorce is lack of communication. Those who have kids get brought into a messy custody battle. It seems that many people are forgetting about how this affects a child during his/her life.

People are forgetting to love and honor " 'til death does us part." Some times the best thing for two people is a divorce. But for others the reason for getting a divorce just does not make any sense.

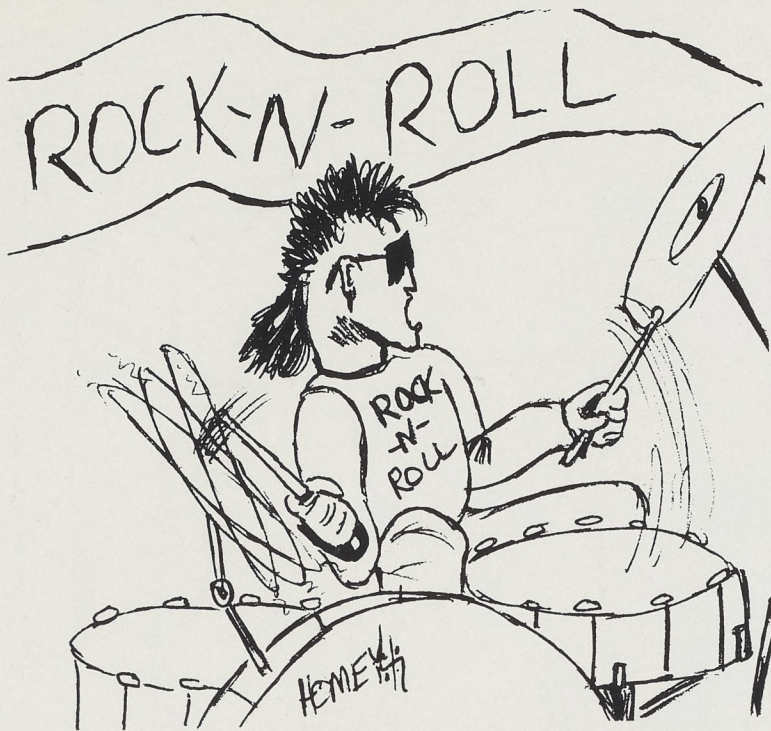
## LETTERS

HIGHPOINT welcomes  
Letters to the Editor  
from responsible individuals.

"You can't always  
get what you want  
but if you try  
you sometimes  
just might find  
that you get  
what you need."

—Rolling Stones





## A Tribute To The CURE

by Shirley Collado

There are certain artists or groups that are not well known or in the Top Forty, but their faithful fans have proven this to be one of their stronger points. Indeed, one group that has left a mark on self expression and avoided success overtaking them would have to be The Cure. It is ironic how The Cure has grown from as early as 1979, and still many people don't recognize the group. Their latest and most well known album is entitled *Disintegration*, which consists of their only songs ever to hit the Top Forty, "Fascination Street" and "Love Song." The titles of their songs alone are intensely intriguing. Some examples of such songs from the *Disintegration* album are "Homesick," "Plain Song," "Same Deep Water As You" and others. The songs tend to be very intimate and the lyrics are very strong and vivid. The sound effects are as real as rain, a thunder-clap or the wind bathing the earth. The music created by these uniquely talented musicians is definitely brilliant and in a class by itself. For those Cure fans who have not purchased the *Disintegration* album, don't miss out on this provoking collection of art.

In an interview on the New Wave station, 9.7 WDRE, the lead vocalist of The Cure, Robert Smith, stated that he feared exploitation and massive fame. He also stated that he never imagined he'd be heard on Top Forty stations, such as Z100 or 95.5 WPLJ. This might sound strange coming from an artist, but The Cure's goal, as Robert Smith put it, is to reach their fans and to create music and lyrics; not to comply with what sells, but rather to send out a part of themselves that certain people can identify with.

New Wave in a word is **realism**. Negative (realistic) topics today tend to make people uncomfortable, as if

they did not want to stare at their own reflections in their mirrors. For dance songs, words don't really matter, as long as the beat is good. There comes a time when having tunnel vision does not do the trick, and we must look around and learn from what we consider "weird" (when in fact it is just different from what we label "normal"). These different things and people might lead us to identify the person we might not really know—ourselves, and what we sometimes allow materialistic things and society to control—our lives.

On August twentieth, history took its course. The Cure performed at Giant Stadium, along with The Pixies, Love and Rockets, and their surprise guests were a band from England, new even to Cure fans, Shelly & Orphan. Lost in music and drenched in sweat, the only things that stood between the crowd and the sky were The Cure and lights of purple.

Unfortunately, Robert Smith announced that it would be their first and last tour. There will probably be one more album recorded after *Disintegration*, but it will be the last one. Faithful Cure fans will never forget the energy involved in this experience. We say thank you to The Cure for not caring for the fame or being in the limelight. We walked through every word, every song, and felt a thunder-clap. The Cure—far from **DISINTEGRATION**.

### The Cure's albums:

May 1979—3 Imaginary Boys  
April 1980—17 Seconds  
April 1981—Faith  
May 1982—Pornography  
August 1983—Boys Don't Cry  
December 1983—Japanese

### Whispers

May 1984—The Top  
October 1984—The Cure Live  
August 1985—The Head on the Door

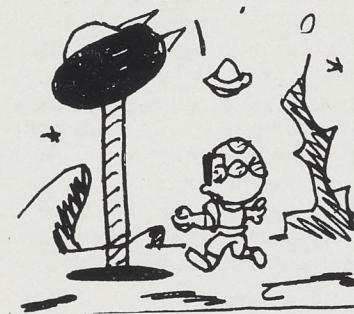
May 1986—Staring at the Sea  
May 1987—Kiss me, Kiss me, Kiss me  
May 1989—Disintegration



THE HEROIC COSMIC COZ IS BEING PURSUED BY A DISGUSTING BLOB



COZ SPOTS HIS HOVERING SPACECRAFT AND RUNS FOR THE LADDER!



THE  
HIGHPOINT  
STAFF  
WISH  
THE  
ENTIRE  
FORD  
COMMUNITY  
A  
VERY  
HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING.

Give a little heart and  
soul . . . join the  
MUSIC CLUB!

This holiday  
season, let us  
remember those  
less fortunate  
than ourselves.

## Just Call Me Shirley

by Christopher Mari

Some would say that Shirley Collado is very unique and original. Most of Ford knows her by her Russian hat, or her "fun" jewelry. But Shirley would sum up herself in two words: "I'm Shirley." And that's, she feels, the best way to live.

Over this past summer, Shirley attended Yale for some advanced courses in government. She wrote and submitted an essay. Out of 97 students nationwide, she was one of the 87 selected to attend.

Recently, I found Shirley in one of her less busy moments and asked her about her time at Yale University.

**Highpoint:** Shirley, how long were you at Yale?

**Shirley:** I attended Yale for four weeks in July and August.

**Highpoint:** What kinds of courses did you take at Yale?

**Shirley:** I took several. One of those courses was called Advanced American Government. We used mock trials and acted out roles about what takes place in Congress. Another course was Speech Communication, in which we learned how to speak clearly and concisely. We talked about both political and social issues. I was also speaker of the house in my Congressional Workshop course. It was a very formal thing. All the students were addressed as "mister" or "miss." I enjoyed very much the interaction with other kids my own age. It was very intense and natural.

**Highpoint:** Did the experience change you in any way?

**Shirley:** Yes. I always thought politics was very boring. But through acting it out instead of just listening to people talk about it, it became very exciting. Instead of just shifting and complaining about the status of the world, I felt

we could actually do something.

At times, I thought, sitting up late at night, can I pull this off? Do I really belong here? But I did it. And I learned a lot.

**Highpoint:** Did you meet anyone famous or important?

**Shirley:** Geraldine Ferrara. She's really wonderful. Also, I met, at the UN, the Ambassadors of the U.S., Israel and Russia. We also met some of the editors of the *New York Times*.

**Highpoint:** How did you feel about your classmates?

**Shirley:** Coming from New York, I thought I had seen everything. I was wrong. I experienced new groups of people, people from Texas, Tennessee, California, and all over the country. Some were from very small towns that have no Hispanics in them. I was their first experience with an Hispanic.

**Highpoint:** Did you discover anything at Yale that you would like to bring back to Ford?

**Shirley:** Yes. I would like to start a Junior Statesmen of America (JSA) chapter here. It would involve debates, conventions, mock trials, and acting out elections. I would like especially to have a group where people can discuss issues in the open. These problems can be both public and personal. Some people feel intimidated by debates, but such a chapter gives them the power to view ideas and to take part whenever they feel comfortable.

**Highpoint:** Are you happy with your experience at Yale?

**Shirley:** Yes. But it would not have been possible without the help of Mrs. Ozga, Brother Luke, Mr. Campanaro, and the guidance department. I could not have done it without them.

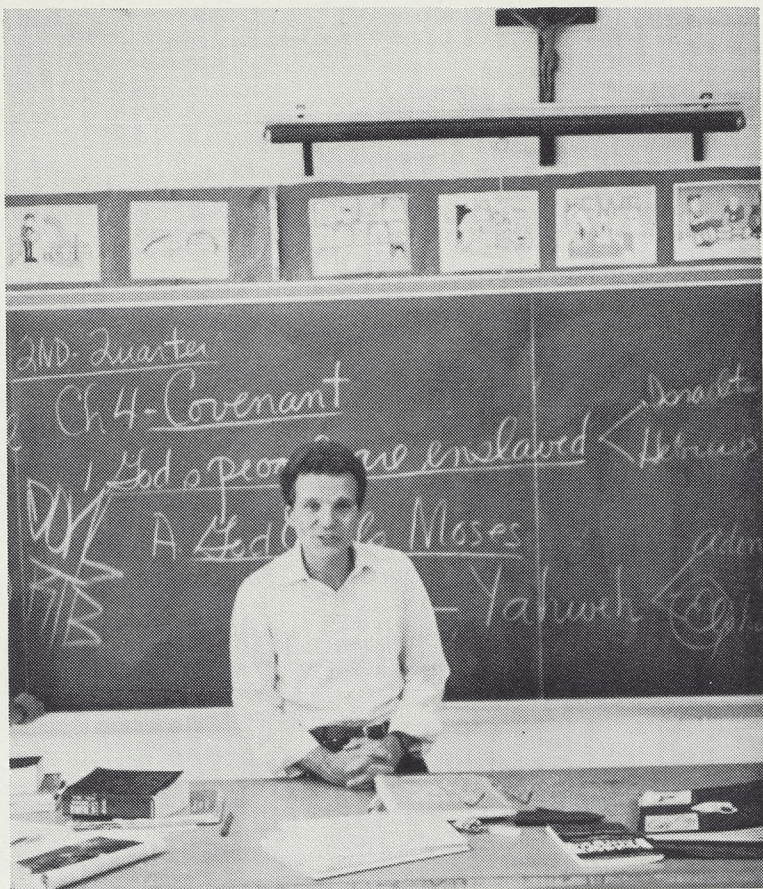


Shirley Collado

### ATTENTION SENIORS!

Seize the opportunity to protest Ford's uniform. Express yourself on Senior Hat and Tie Day, November 29th.

Let U.B.U.



Mr. Paul Gaglio, model teacher.

## Ignorance Isn't Bliss

by Shirley M. Collado

One out of every nine young people (age 14 and under) has experienced sexual intercourse. 87% of sexually active teens say they have had sex before the age of seventeen. This year 1,100,000 teenage girls will become pregnant. 75% of these will be unintentional. You may find these statistics shocking, but they are a reality among today's youth.

However, the 75% of unintentional pregnancies could have been prevented if teenagers had been informed properly by PROFESSIONALS on the facts about sex. The number one cause of teenage pregnancy today is IGNORANCE.

Although some parents do inform their children on the topic of sex, most teenagers do not have the advantage of parental guidance. Some parents are uncomfortable about discussing sex. Some parents wait too long before they talk about it, and when they do, their children are unwilling or are too embarrassed to listen. Many parents simply do not know what to say or how much to say about sex, because they, too, in some cases, are not aware of the FACTS that are so vitally important to know today. In these cases, teenagers are forced to turn to unreliable sources, such as their peer's experiences or their own.

Many individuals feel that sex education should not be taught in high schools, simply because they feel that sex before marriage is wrong. The thing we must understand is that this program of sex education does not and will not advocate promiscuity

or pre-marital sex. Rather, it allows teenagers to know the facts and make independent, educated decisions. The issue here is not whether it is morally right for teenagers to have sex, because whether or not this program is implemented, teenagers will continue to have sex if they choose to. The only question at stake here is will they be informed about the dangers and risks of promiscuity, or will they be allowed to continue on the potentially destructive road they may be on?

Other complications which result from ignorance are the sexually transmitted diseases, such as syphilis, gonorrhea, herpes and the life-threatening A.I.D.S. Out of these sexually transmitted diseases, A.I.D.S. has the greatest impact. A.I.D.S. at this time has no cure and can be fatal. Not all students are learning about A.I.D.S. in school, and not all adults are absorbing factual information about this deadly disease.

Each year over 300,000 babies are born to teenagers who have not completed high school. 36,000 of these mothers have not completed the ninth grade. These pregnancies could be reduced, if not prevented completely, if sex education were taught in high schools.

23,000,000 six-to-twelve-year-olds are developing values and aspirations that will affect the decisions they make as teens. Let's put down the moral barrier and be realistic. Assumptions and hoping for the best do not prevent the creation of unwanted babies, diseases, abortions, and emotional disturbance.

If you or anyone you know is being sexually harassed, abused, or molested by a family member, remember that there are people who will believe you and help you. You have done nothing wrong—don't be afraid to tell us if "you can't tell anyone." INCEST HELPLINE (212) 227 - 3000.

## Piselli Predicts Faculty Football Victory

by Christine Arbulu and Jennifer Selfridge

Football season has started and so has intramural football here at Bishop Ford. This year's intramural football will be run by two of Bishop Ford's faculty members, Mr. Piselli and Mr. Longmore. The games will be held at 2:30 P.M. and 3:45 P.M. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays in the schoolyard.

Intramural football brings students together. It is broken up into two divisions, one consisting of freshmen and sophomores, the other of juniors and seniors. In every game, seven people from each side take part. There is one quarterback and six others out on the field.

Many have been wondering why there is no varsity football team at Bishop Ford, a school with one of the best sports programs. This is simply because the athletic dept. feels it would cost a great deal of money. The cost of equipment and availability of the gym may cause problems in the event of an accident or injury of any player. Bishop Ford has taken these matters into consideration.

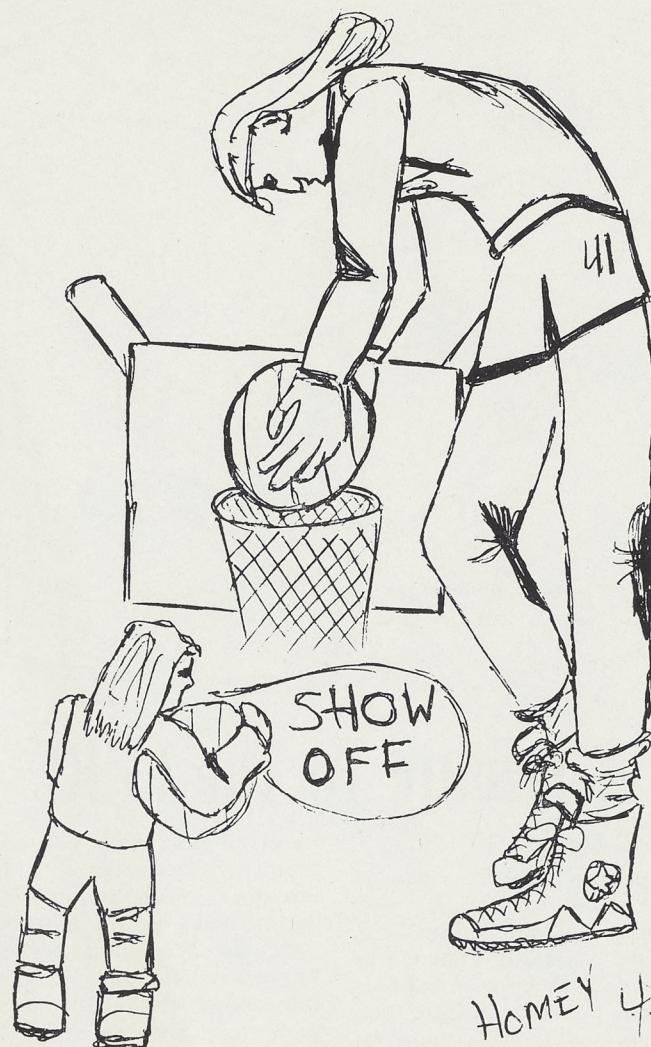
Intramural football also allows faculty members to show us if they're as good on the field as they are in school. Apparently they are, because they have won during the last 5 out of 6 years. Who will win this year—students or faculty? Mr. Piselli has a positive outlook on this year's games: "The faculty enjoys winning the football games every year, and plans to continue that tradition this year."

**If your husband, spouse, or boyfriend is hitting you, call the Victim Services Agency for advice, a safe place to stay for the night, or just someone to talk to. All services are free and confidential.**

**VSA Hotline:--  
(212) 577-7777**

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Ford's alumnus, Peter Nash, son of Coach Raymond Nash, for his success in the recording business with the group, THIRD BASE. Their single, "Step into the AM," reached BILLBOARD'S Top-40 chart. The video is often seen on music shows. THIRD BASE has also appeared on "Showtime at the Apollo" and has performed in England.



## Communication Is The Key

by Shirley Collado

I'm sure most of us are familiar with questions such as, "Did you clean your room yet? Did you do your homework or study? and Are you really going out looking like that?" There are also commands we have engraved on our minds, such as, "You better be back before your curfew! Don't have any friends over while we're gone! or Don't hang out with him or her!" Although our questions and commandments may differ, they all come from the same source, PARENTS.

A big topic overlooked by teenagers and their parents is the importance of "communication." During our adolescence it is important to get support. Support doesn't always take the form of a pat on the back, or going to church with the family. Let's take the Cosby Show, for instance, where life is just peachy for the Huxtables. Mrs. Huxtable is a lawyer. Mr. Huxtable is a doctor. The kids are usually happy and comfortable talking to their parents. If they do something wrong, they cannot watch T.V. or go out for the week. Unfortunately, even upper-middleclass families have problems, and they cannot be solved in a matter of thirty minutes.

There are certain bones of contention between us and our parents, such as clothes, values, our music, our friends, and a sense of what is tacky, old fashioned, and modern. There is more than one side to this problem. Some parents are too strict on us. Some parents are too friendly when there is a need for authority.

A child might even be faced with losing a friend due to a parent's getting too close to his peers or always participating in his activities. Teenagers tend to rebel, sometimes because they are not getting enough attention. There are so many factors to be taken into consideration on such a sensitive topic.

We tend to blame one another for experiences as destructive as divorce, a death in the family, or a severe illness. Self esteem on both sides is very important. When we're young, negative things should not be said to us about our intellectual abilities, physical appearance or disabilities, because a young child's mind is fresh and innocent and easily believes what it hears, especially from a trusted authority such as a parent.

At times it's hard to tell your parents what they really mean to you or what bothers you in the relationship, but it is vitally necessary. Although parents and their children see things from different angles, at one point or another each side needs to be heard. We all communicate in different ways: through speech, writing, music, the arts, and other forms. Some of us communicate better than others, but no matter what form we use, communication needs to be accomplished.

As Mike & the Mechanics sing in their song:

"Every generation blames the one before and all of their frustrations come beating at your door." From one teenager to another, just remember to keep the communication lines open in the living years.

**Our Hall of Fame Athletic Alumni Day will take place at Ford on Saturday, November 25.**